



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
2000 NAVY PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

OPNAVINST 4440.19E  
N412H  
18 Aug 03

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 4440.19E

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: POLICIES AND PRIORITY RULES FOR CANNIBALIZATION OF  
OPERATIONAL EQUIPMENT AND DIVERSION OF MATERIAL AT  
CONTRACTOR PLANTS TO MEET URGENT OPERATIONAL  
REQUIREMENTS

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 4790.2H  
(b) OPNAVINST 4614.1F

1. Purpose. To issue uniform policies, procedures, and responsibilities for meeting urgent operational requirements by:

- a. Cannibalization of equipment which is in operational use or in storage within the supply system or in inactive Fleet units.
- b. Diversion of material at contractor's plants.

2. Cancellation. OPNAVINST 4440.19D.

3. Scope and Application. This instruction is Navy-wide in scope and applies to all equipment, components, assemblies, and items contained therein. This instruction directs all levels of command to actively pursue appropriate courses to properly manage cannibalizations and diversions.

4. Definitions

- a. Cannibalization. The removal of serviceable material or components from one equipment for installation in another equipment to restore the latter to a serviceable condition.

- b. Crossdeck. The transfer of authorized allowance material from one unit to another in order to improve available inventory on board.

OPNAVINST 4440.19E  
18 Aug 03

c. Diversion. The removal of an item of government furnished material or contractor furnished material positioned at a contractor's plant incident to a production contract.

## 5. Policy

a. This instruction directs all levels of command to actively pursue appropriate courses of action to properly manage cannibalizations and diversions within their areas of purview.

b. Cannibalization or diversion actions should not be confused with a crossdecking action. Crossdecking is related to material in inventory, while cannibalizations and diversions are related to material installed in equipments. Crossdecking actions will not be discussed in this instruction.

c. Cannibalization or diversion actions will not be used unless a significant degraded readiness condition has been reported, all possible actions have been taken to satisfy the material requirement, and the impact on maintenance personnel has been considered.

d. Cannibalizations between active fleet units will not be a normal peacetime practice, and will be considered an acceptable option only after all other logistics support alternatives have been exhausted. Cannibalization or diversion actions between Fleet units will be controlled by the Air Wing, Type Wing, or Type Commander (TYCOM) level.

e. Cannibalization or diversion of material from U.S. programs to fulfill requirements generated by foreign governments will be effected only when (1) U.S. forces will not be adversely impacted, and (2) full costs of the cannibalization action, including possible late claims in production contracts, will be borne by the foreign government.

f. It is incumbent on the Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) and Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) and/or Program Executive Offices (PEOs) to monitor cannibalization rates and to implement cost effective solutions for those system that degrade readiness or significantly impact maintenance manhours.

6. Implementing Rules

a. Aviation

(1) The Lead TYCOM is responsible for developing implementation instructions to ensure that cannibalization actions are justified and proper actions are taken to minimize future actions.

(2) TYCOM representatives will work with the NAVSEA, NAVAIR, and PEOs to identify systems where readiness concerns drive high cannibalization rates or increase maintenance man-hours. TYCOM representative should prioritize NAVSEA and NAVAIR efforts when necessary.

(3) Squadron commanding officers shall issue cannibalization policies and procedures to control, monitor, and report cannibalization actions between squadron aircraft.

(4) Afloat Air Wing Commanders will issue intra-squadron cannibalization procedures and monitor cannibalization rates between squadrons assigned to the Air Wing.

(5) Ashore Type Wing Commanders will issue intra-squadron cannibalization procedures and monitor cannibalization between squadrons assigned to the Type Wing.

(6) Lead TYCOMs will issue cannibalization procedures and monitor cannibalization between squadrons assigned to different operational commands, i.e., cannibalizing non-deployed planes to support deployed aircraft.

b. Maritime

(1) TYCOM representatives are responsible for ensuring that cannibalization actions are justified and proper steps are taken to minimize future cannibalization actions.

OPNAVINST 4440.19E  
18 Aug 03

(2) When the estimated material availability date reflected in supply status is considered unsatisfactory to meet an operational requirement for a Fleet unit or a shore activity, the cognizant TYCOM or shore activity will first attempt to satisfy the requirement through alternative actions, to include but not limited to redistribution of storeroom spares from other ships or activities, from locally-available excess stocks, or from local fabrication and procurement. If these actions prove insufficient, system cannibalization or component diversion may be requested by the TYCOM for Fleet units or the shore activity that requires the material

(3) The Naval Inventory Control Point will not authorize system cannibalization or new production diversion requested by the TYCOM or shore activity until investigation has determined that all alternative sources of assets have been exhausted.

(4) Consistent with requisition Issue Priority Designators (IPD) and Force/Activity Designators (FADs) explained in reference (b), when competition exists for the same asset the following order of priority will be used for cannibalization or diversion of new production material:

(a) Material required by U.S. Navy combat forces, U.S. Navy combat ready forces, and those U.S. Navy direct combat support forces deployed outside of Continental United States (CONUS) on an IPD 01 requisition.

(b) Material required by U.S. Navy combat forces, U.S. Navy combat ready forces, and those U.S. Navy direct combat support forces deployed outside of CONUS on an IPD 02 requisition.

(c) Material required by CONUS activities and units on an IPD 02 or higher requisition, if a production line stoppage will not be caused by the diversion.

(d) Material requirements on IPD 02 or higher requisitions needed within 7 days by a maintenance activity to correct a Non-Mission Capable, Supply deficiency.

OPNAVINST 4440.19E  
18 Aug 03

(e) Material requirements on requisitions with IPD 03 through 06 to satisfy Casualty Report deficiencies.

(f) Other end use material requirements on requisitions with IPD 02 through 08.

(5) When necessary, cannibalization actions among equals within FADs or from higher FADs may be negotiated within or between type commands.

7. Action. Lead TYCOM will issue and/or revise procedures as necessary to ensure uniform compliance with this instruction.

A.S. THOMPSON  
By direction

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